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THE KABUL TIMES

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VOL. VI, NO. 310

KABUL, TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 1968 (HOOT 28, 1346 S.H.)

PRICE AF. 3

Financial Aid Sought For House Of Destitute In Nangarhar

JALALABAD, March 19, (Bakhtar).—His Royal Highness Prince Ahmad Shah, the president of the Afghan Red Crescent Society, presided over a meeting here to discuss ways of financially strengthening and developing (marastoon) the house for destitute in this province.

Prince Ahmad Shah described the social and humanitarian goals of the society and added that the motto of the society was in line with the Holy Koran which says that the welfare of the people is their own welfare. He said that the aim of the society was not only to extend financial help but also to popularise the aims of the society.

The prince called on the people to help the newly formed house for the destitute in the province.

He said that training destitute children was one of the aims of the society and hoped that the people would help in this cause. Governor Deen Mohammad Delawar, thanked Prince Ahmad Shah. A large number of officials of the province and elders of the people attended the meeting.

Cyprus Force Extended For Three Months

UNITED NATIONS, New York, March 19, (DPA).—The Security Council Monday night approved an extension of the UN peace keeping force on Cyprus by another three months until June 26. The extension had been requested by UN Secretary-General U Thant who told the council in his report on the situation on the strife-torn island that UN peace keeping forces were still needed to prevent new clashes between Greek Cypriots and the Turkish minority.

The resolution adopted by the council also appealed to all parties concerned to make determined cooperative efforts to solve the Cyprus crisis. At the council meeting the Soviet Union for the first time was represented by its new chief delegate Jakob Malik.

Johnson Calls For Austerity, Efforts To Win Vietnam War

MINNEAPOLIS, March 19, (Reuter).—U.S. President Lyndon Johnson called yesterday for tighter belts, austerity and a "total national effort" to win the Vietnam war. The President warned that Hanoi's optimism was being buoyed by frequent calls in the U.S. for a de-escalation of the American war effort.

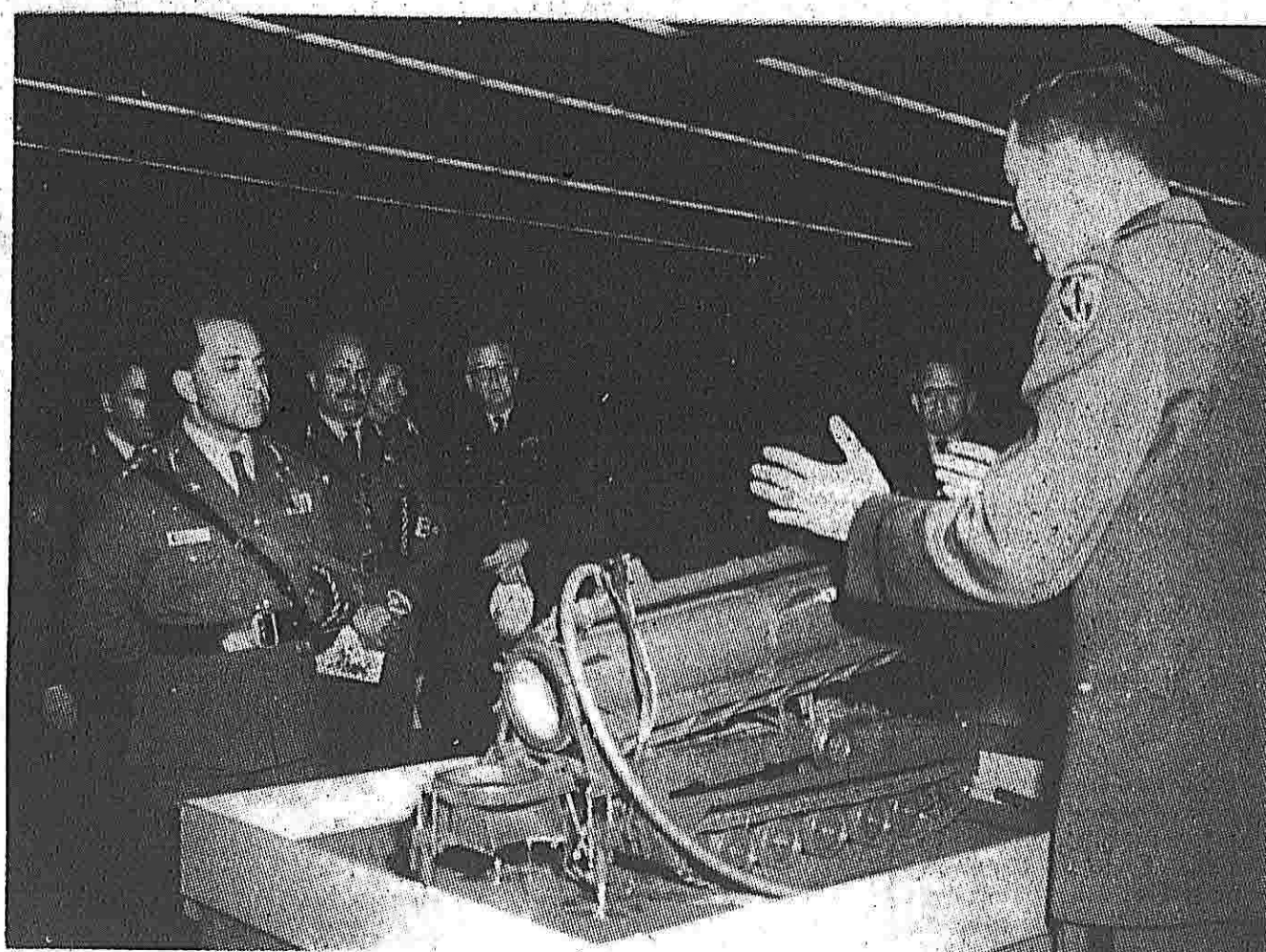
His hard-hitting speech was seen as an implied attack on Sen. Robert Kennedy (Democrat, New York), who is said to have offered Democratic Party's presidential nomination if Johnson agreed to a complete reevaluation of Vietnam war goals.

Johnson called for national unity to deflate communist hopes. He said that "what they cannot win from our boys, they are trying to win in Washington, from our leaders here at home."

The President, addressing the National Farmers Convention here, made no direct reference to Sen. Kennedy, but informed sources said his remarks reflected his anger over what the White House regards as an attempt to involve the chief executive in "political blackmail."

On the economic front, Johnson offered to cut government spending even on "major programmes, and said he planned to intensify current efforts to curb overseas investment by American businessmen and to get U.S. tourists to postpone holidays in Europe and Asia. He said spending cuts would be in non-defence and non-Vietnam areas of budgeting, but will be "all across the board" in other fields.

Bankers in some countries agreed with the measures taken in Washington to solve the immediate world



Dutch Urge EEC To Switch To Beef To Avert Milk Crisis

BRUSSELS, March 19, (Reuter).—The Common Market is on the verge of one of the most serious crises the six-nation community has faced in its 10-year existence it concerns the price of milk.

The next few weeks will see bitter debate inside three of the European economic community's bodies: The Council of Ministers, the Commission, and the European Parliament which will set the pattern for the Common Market's future development.

The outcome will largely determine the future farm policy of the community and indirectly affect even industrial policy, the role of the European parliament, and moves towards political unity.

The modernisation of agriculture inside the six member states, the integration of their markets, and the danger of recreation of national barriers are some of the more important issues at stake.

The community is faced with rapidly increasing butter and milk surpluses virtually unexportable to third countries—and the prospect of mounting subsidies to farmers whose markets have been depressed by over-production.

To remedy the situation, Dr. Sicco Masholt, Dutch vice-president of the commission responsible for agriculture, has submitted a revolutionary plan which would eradicate butter

surpluses by encouraging farmers to switch from milk to beef production.

The key point of his suggestion is a low milk price which would help organise the milk market inside the community on the basis of supply and demand.

The plan also includes several radical proposals designed to make farming inside the community more efficient.

Another essential aspect is that it would reduce soaring community expenditure under a joint farm fund which is used to help producers when over-production has knocked the bottom out of the market.

The low milk price suggestion has met with hostile reaction from most Common Market farmers, and was cold-shouldered by their agriculture ministers here last Tuesday.

Sterling Picks Up On Foreign Exchange Market

LONDON, March 19, (Reuter).—The pound sterling picked up sharply on the foreign exchange market yesterday while Britain hailed the Washington gold agreement as step towards international monetary stability.

Against this background, chancellor of the exchequer Roy Jenkins prepared to go before parliament today with a national budget expected to provide a shock treatment for the nation's economic ills.

Sterling had sagged to its lowest-ever level in last week's gold rush. But following Sunday night's announcement of a two-tier gold trading system, the pound jumped more than a full U.S. cent to top its official parity for the first time in two weeks.

The closing price last night was \$ two 40.25 cents.

In the House of Commons, Jenkins said the Washington package has been a signal achievement that should help the world money system develop in an orderly fashion.

Split Gold System Gets Full To Cool Support

WASHINGTON, March 19, (Reuter).—World reaction to the central bankers' decision in Washington to set up a two-tier gold system ranged today from full support in Bonn, through cautious approval in several capitals to cool reception in Paris.

In South Africa, the world's largest known gold producer, economists expressed doubts about workability of the proposed system as the cabinet went into urgent session to review the country's position.

American bankers saw it as a first necessary step to stop the gold rush while British financial experts said it would not solve all monetary problems.

Bankers in some countries agreed with the measures taken in Washington to solve the immediate world

financial crisis but questioned their long-term effects. Major gold company shares dropped sharply on the Sydney stock exchange.

Jet Boats May Open Up Isolated Nepalese Areas

AUCKLAND, March 19, (Reuter).—A jet boat journey is to be led by Sir Edmund Hillary up a river in the foothills of the Himalayas with the aim of helping the economy of thousands of Nepalese.

Subject to permission from the Nepalese government, Sir Edmund said Sunday night that he plans to use two New Zealand-made jet boats to navigate a stretch of the Sun Kosi River, running from the Indian border to Kathmandu, capital of Nepal.

Sir Edmund said hundreds of thousands of Nepalese living near the river were almost completely isolated. Carrying "produce on their backs to Kathmandu, often took up to 10 days.

"I believe if we can get up the river in jet boats, we could help open up the country economically," Sir Edmund said.

21 Nations Ask For Special Treatment To Boost Exports

NEW DELHI, March 19, (Reuter).—Twenty-one nations asked for special treatment in international commodity trade to help boost their vital exports of primary commodities.

A proposal before UNCTAD stressed the importance of these exports and suggested negotiation of any new international commodity agreements should include liberal treatment of poorer nations.

The resolution, which will now go before the conference commodity committee, was sponsored by 20 African, Asian, Latin American and Caribbean countries plus Yugoslavia. It called for flexibility in the use

of techniques for increasing market opportunities for efficient market producers and free access to markets. The resolution also asked that greater attention be given to the needs of the least developed states plans were being considered for financial and technical assistance to aid production and diversification as part of international commodity agreements.

The importance of soft loans was also stressed and it was suggested that developed countries might divert more of their resources into finding new uses for products of the least developed nations who were now facing a declining market.

Conservative Le Figaro noted: "in fact the two-tier system would be a major devaluation of all currencies in relationship to gold. In most cases the same quantity of dollars or of francs would buy less gold and one does not know how much less."

Gaullist La Nation: without a direct mention of the two-tier system, said the world monetary system was aggravated by U.S. spending in Vietnam.

Paris observers questioned whether France which dropped out of gold pool activity, would manoeuvre against the two-tier system or go along with it. To do the latter, the observers noted, would mean shoring up the ex-

Rhodesian Forces, African Nationalists In Heavy Battle

SALISBURY, March 19, (AP).—Rhodesian security forces backed by crack South African police forces are fighting a running pitched battle with more than 100 heavily armed African nationalists in the remote Zambezi valley about 250 miles north of Salisbury.

A government communique Monday said the battle was still going on and nine Africans had been killed, one injured and an undisclosed number captured.

One member of the security forces had been killed—believed to be a white officer from the Pulawayo area—and two injured.

In the biggest invasion since Premier Ian Smith's government declared independence in 1965

nationalists are believed to have crossed the Zambezi river—the border between Rhodesia and Zambia—towards the end of last week.

The first word reportedly came from an African tribal chief in the Kariba dam area who sent a message to the security forces saying he had seen 20 men crossing in canoes. It is believed other groups crossed at different points.

The battle is going on in a thick thorn bush and scrub area with grass head-high in many places and temperatures over 100 degrees in the midday sun. The nationalists generally hide during the day and move only at night towards the big cities.

Strong air and ground reinforcements have been sent to the area by the Rhodesian defence headquarters. The running battle between troops and African could last several days in view of the difficult conditions.

In Lusaka, a spokesman for one of the Rhodesian exiled nationalist parties ZANU claimed its military wing had inflicted heavy casualties on Rhodesian security forces in a fight last night and forced them to retreat.

An official statement by the Lusaka office of the Zimbabwe African National Union said its military wing killed seven and seriously wounded three out of 15 Rhodesian soldiers encountered last night 40 miles inside Rhodesia west of Makuti.

The entire northern part of southern Rhodesia was placed in a state of alert.

Road blocks have been set up on all routes leading into Salisbury and police are checking all vehicles.

Congress Party Suffered Big Defeat In Bihar

NEW DELHI, March 19, (AFP).—Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's Congress Party suffered a big reverse Monday when its allied provincial administration in the North-eastern Indian state of Bihar was voted out of office.

The state assembly at Patna voted a no-confidence motion by 165 to 148.

The ousted government was formed one and a half months ago after a leftist coalition government of socialists and communists fell following defection by 30 socialists.

The Congress Party backed the defectors to form a minority government, but 12 Congress Party members yesterday crossed the government bench.

Bihar is the fourth Indian province to be caught up in the current wave of political instability.

West Bengal, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh are already being directly administered by the federal government following failure of parliamentary system in these states.

Bihar is now expected to be directly administered from New Delhi. Another provincial administration similarly teetering on the brink of collapse is that of Punjab.

Death Definition Necessary For Transplants: WHO

GENEVA, March 19, (Reuter).—Doctors must agree on a definition of death before heart transplants can become common practice, the director general of the World Health Organisation said here yesterday.

Dr. Marcelino Gomez, Candau told a press conference that it was up to the medical profession and not government organisations to make the rules for this.

He suggested that such a definition should be the province of the World Medical Association and the Council of International Organisations of Medical Sciences made up of specialised world bodies ranging from cancer to tuberculosis research.

"The medical profession has got to get together and define its own way of facing these problems he added. A WHO spokesman said the classical idea of a person being dead when his heart stopped no longer held in an age when the heart could not be kept going artificially.

He thought any new definition of death would probably have to include the question of brain damage and whether the patient would be in full possession of his senses if returned to life.

N. Vietnamese Attack Khe Sanh

SAIGON, March 19, (Reuter).—Hundreds of North Vietnamese swept from trenches round Khe Sanh yesterday in a dawn attack on a "suicide line" of government Rangers dug in around the perimeter of the besieged base, informed U.S. military sources reported.

The government soldiers called in artillery on the attackers, the sources said. After 45 minutes of fierce fighting, the North Vietnamese withdrew.

No casualty reports were available, they added.

The attack was launched by an estimated battalion of North Vietnamese—about 600 men.

The sources said that despite vicious hand-to-hand fighting, the attackers did not breach the perimeter.

The North Vietnamese trenches stretch to only 47 metres from a battalion of dug-in government Ranger troops, which has formed a "suicide" protective barrier around part of the camp's southeast perimeter.

(Continued on page 4)



THE KABUL TIMES

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National UNESCO Commission

The formation of the National Commission for UNESCO is an indication of Afghanistan's keen interest in the activities of this specialised agency of the United Nations. UNESCO's services in the promotion of art and culture, preservation of historical monuments in different member countries, and extension of cooperation for the development of knowledge and technology is admired by all.

Although Afghanistan has been late in forming the National Commission, which other member countries have formed after becoming members of the world organisation, still the step is appropriate considering the fact that it is a permanent association. The commission's duties are varied, but primarily directed towards promoting the image of UNESCO in Afghanistan and strengthening the ties between Afghanistan and UNESCO.

The formation of the commission comes at a time when the interest of UNESCO in Afghanistan as the centre of art and civilisation is growing. Important seminars in which experts from the region and the rest of the world participated have been organised under the auspices of UNESCO. The International Manuscripts Seminar held in Kabul attended by delegates from many nations is one example of this renewed interest.

The decision of the General Assembly of UNESCO last year to establish a centre for the study of the Kushanid period and other ancient civilisation of this region in Kabul was highly welcomed. Preparations are underway and we hope that the National Commission will make it one of its prime duties to facilitate the establishment of the centre in which we are sure not only the orientalists but experts of the world will take an interest.

The study of art and history of a nation

Food For Thought

The glory of unity is an answer to

the beauty of eternal existence

—An Easter Proverb

takes a long time. A new excavation may reveal many interesting records that will shed light on little known eras of our history. It took Italy more than 170 years to be able to get a clear picture of its history. We are happy to note that we have been moving in the right direction in the past years, and we hope the formation of the centre will stimulate further research into the past of Afghanistan. UNESCO's help to combat illiteracy in the world is welcomed by member nations. The Afghan National UNESCO Commission ought to make a complete study of the problem, see in what ways UNESCO's advice and aid can coordinate our efforts with worldwide efforts to make man literate.

Since the commission has been formed by the Ministry of Education, many educational problems may be further studied carefully. We are happy to note that UNESCO is already helping the Ministry of Education in various fields, especially teacher training. But with the mounting problems of education in all countries of the world including Afghanistan more of this help will be needed.

The most important duty of the commission is to supervise work and to see that suggestions are listened to and implemented. As long as advice remains on paper, there is no hope of any improvement.

The UNESCO department formed in the Ministry of Education ought to have a small translation branch to translate the UNESCO Feature service, one of the best media covering the general activities of UNESCO all over the world. This department should be in constant touch with the press media in Afghanistan, and material translated into the national languages should be sent to them for publication.

HOME PRESS AT A GLANCE

Today *Israh* carries an editorial on the shortage of nurses in the country. Trained personnel, it said, is of special importance in the proper operation of hospitals.

No matter how fancy or how well equipped the hospital may be, a hospital can serve no useful purpose unless it is staffed by dedicated and trained personnel.

Nurses are an indispensable category of hospital staff. We have two nursing training centres in the capital, the editorial continued. One of these schools teaches women students and the other men.

In spite of the fact that both these institutions have been functioning for several years there is still a shortage of nurses in all hospitals throughout the country.

Stressing the need for more nurses the editorial came out in favour of women nurses rather than male ones.

This is important because men can be usefully employed in more strenuous tasks and nursing will be a field in which large numbers of our female population could usefully engage.

What is more important is that nurses should be kind and sympathetic with patients. This is a field in which women have proved to be more successful.

The women's nursing school was established some 12 years ago. But unfortunately not very many women volunteered to join the school.

This is not so much because the young ladies are reluctant to join the school but that a certain amount of conservatism on the part of their parents makes it difficult for them to do what they wish.

Nursing is a specialised field of activity, said the editorial. As such by rights only 12th grade graduates should be accepted in a nursing school in order to enable them to grasp the subject in details. However the nursing school, in order to provide greater incentive for girls to join the school accepts ninth grade students. It is surprising that even with all these facilities and incentives there are not very many girls who wish to register in the school. This trend

is mainly responsible for the continued growth of nurse shortage in our hospitals.

The editorial stressed that both parents and members of parliament are responsible to curb this trend.

Parents should realise that nursing is an honourable and noble profession. They should encourage rather than discourage their daughters to go into this profession.

Parliament members who make frequent calls on the government to establish new hospitals and provide medical services should also take it upon themselves to persuade the electorate to help meet this urgent problem by sending their daughters to join nursing training institutions.

World Press

The *New York Times* predicted a long period of uncertainty and chaos in international economic affairs unless the strength of the dollar was restored.

In an editorial on the meeting of the International Gold Pool in Washington, the newspaper noted the task was no longer to avert collapse of the payments network but to rebuild its structure.

"If they fail to act constructively, there is a danger that the breakdown will be followed by a long period of uncertainty and chaos in international economic affairs,"

The *Times* said "without cooperation there could be a fatal split into rival trading blocs, accompanied by reversion to protectionism and other discriminatory nationalist practices. Such a development would mean an end to the expansion in international prosperity that has been so marked during the postwar period."

Noting the breakdown in the monetary system indicated lack of foresight, determination and discipline, the *Times* said it was now up to the United States to demonstrate that it was prepared to live up to its responsibilities.

"This task demands that Washington take the lead in producing a positive programme to defend the dollar, one that does not involve monetary or economic isolationism."

"It will be necessary to achieve a balance between the nation's commitments and resources, which means increased taxes, it also will be necessary to improve the dwindling surplus in trade, which calls for stemming wage and price increases

to go into this profession.

The Soviet government newspaper *Izvestia* said that the main cause of the world gold crisis was the U.S. "aggression in Vietnam."

"The 'almighty' dollar which was deified not so long ago was not being accepted yesterday in fashionable hotels and big stores in Paris," one headline in the newspaper said.

The Polish communist party's official newspaper backed demands for a speedy purge from party and state posts of all people responsible for recent student unrest and demonstrations.

Workers meeting all over the country were demanding severe penalties for "the organisers of the Zionist campaign," the newspaper *Trybuna Ludu* said.

Resolutions passed at these meetings called for culprits to be pointed out and the "swift and consistent purge from party and state positions of people who are not worth the confidence of the Polish nation."

Workers throughout the country declared themselves ready to support the needs with the "uncompromising struggle against the declared enemies of People's Poland."

They also declared their support for the communist party and its first secretary, Comulka, *Trybuna Ludu* said.

One department of the Directorate, the Land Resources Division, surveys and assesses land resources in developing countries. Its activities range from broad reconnaissance surveys to detailed feasibility studies: the aim is to report on the suitability of the land for agricultural projects of one kind or another. In countries where communications are poor or even non-existent, and where there may be great stretches of semi-desert or jungle, such reports are invaluable to development planners.

For example, in the Gambia the mapping programme was concentrated on the production of large-scale plans of selected

British Armed Forces: Before And After Cut

"Defence must be related to the requirements of foreign policy, but it must not be asked in the name of foreign policy to undertake commitments beyond its capability" was how Harold Wilson announced Britain's sweeping defence reductions. The prime minister added an assurance of Britain's "continued interest" in the maintenance of security in South-East Asia and the Persian Gulf.

The withdrawal from "East of Suez" was announced by the Defence Minister, Denis Healey, in July 1967, with the aim of completion by the "mid-1970s". This is now to be brought forward to December 1971 and is to be accompanied by important cuts in equipment.

Here is a breakdown of British military strength into its main categories and locations, with a summary of the reductions and savings.

Strength: 300,000 servicemen (including those returned from the Middle and Far East). About 18 battalions are normally maintained in the UK garrison in addition to 2 infantry brigades and a parachute brigade in the Strategic Reserve.

Strike Command provides a medium bombing force designed for strategic nuclear strikes and conventional bombing. Its nucleus consists of about 80 Victor 2 and Vulcan 2 jet bombers which can carry either nuclear or conventional bombs or Blue Steel air-to-surface nuclear missiles.

All strategic bombers are assigned to NATO. 100 Lightning interceptor fighters are also assigned to NATO equipped with air-to-air missiles.

There is a Bloodhound 2 surface-to-air missile squadron and a Ballistic Missile Early Warning station with direct links with United States as well as British defence headquarters.

Coastal Command has long-range reconnaissance and anti-submarine aircraft. Transport Command has 10 Belfast, 20 Britannia, 5 Comet and 14 VC 10 aircraft for long-range airlift and also medium-range and short-range transports, including helicopters.

Cost: Around £ 1,000 million, excluding research and development. Function: NATO commitments and overseas emergencies.

Germany and Berlin
Strength: 64,000 servicemen (including Navy and Air Force personnel). The British Army of the Rhine has a current strength of 52,000. It is organised into 3 divisions, each of 2 brigades (two of the six are armoured).

One infantry brigade and support units (5,000 men) are being withdrawn early this year. Equipment includes the Chieftain medium tank and Honest John tactical nuclear weapons. Ground forces in Berlin are 3,000 strong and RAF Germany has 8,700 men.

Cost: Around £ 220 million. Function: NATO commitments, but individual units have been used elsewhere.

Mediterranean
Strength: 17,000 servicemen. There are 2 battalions in Cyprus (including 1,000 men with the United Nations forces). There are 2 battalions in Malta, one in Gibraltar and a small garrison in Libya. Air strength includes 50 Canberra bombers with nuclear capacity and one squadron of Lightning interceptors.

Cost: Around £ 50 million. Function: Central Treaty Organisation commitments and UN duties in Cyprus.

Caribbean
Strength: 250 men, a small garrison in British Honduras. Cost: Not separately calculated, but negligible. Function: Defence and security of British Honduras.

Middle East
Strength: 8,000 servicemen in the Persian Gulf (Bahrain and Sharjah). This includes a reinforcement formerly in Aden. Air strength consists of Shackleton and Hunter ground-attack aircraft.

Cost: About £ 30 million. Function: Commitments to oil states.

Far East
50,000 servicemen, including the Gurkha infantry brigade (8 infantry battalions) of 10,000 men. There is a headquarters and a marine commando brigade in Singapore, in infantry battalion with the Commonwealth Brigade in Malacca, another in Brunei and an infantry brigade in Hong Kong.

Far East air force includes combat aircraft, transports, heli-

copters and light aircraft and a Bloodhound 2 surface-to-air missile squadron in Singapore.

Cost: About £ 200 million. Function: Commitment to Malaysia, South-East Asia Treaty Organisation, Hong Kong, New Zealand and Australia.

The Navy
There are 37,000 men at sea. The operational fleet during 1967 included 3 aircraft carriers and 3 nuclear-powered fleet submarines.

The Cuts
The F-III
The order for 50 United States F-III swing aircraft has been cancelled. This leaves the RAF without any real long-range strike and reconnaissance aircraft after the phasing out between 1970 and 1975 of aging Canberra and Vulcans. All other re-equipment contracts will stand.

Withdrawal from Far East and Persian Gulf
Forces will now be withdrawn by December 1970 instead of the "mid-1970s". (Mr. Lee of Singapore has won some month's concession from the British Government: withdrawal was being planned for March 1971). Forces will not be withdrawn from Hong Kong or RAF staging posts at Gan (Indian Ocean) or Masirah (Persian Gulf).

Aircraft Carriers
The aircraft carriers will be phased out 3 years earlier than planned, 1972 instead of mid-1970s. There are to be cuts in the nuclear-powered submarine programme.

Forces will be reduced by 75,000 by the end of 1970 instead of the "mid-70s", and possibly more after that.

The Saving
The British Government has announced that the 1969-1970 Defence Budget, which was planned to come down to £ 1,970 million at 1964 prices as a result of the November devaluation economies, will be reduced to about £ 1,860 million at 1964 prices, that is, a cut of £ 110 million. By 1972-1973 the Defence Budget is expected to be between £ 1,600 million and £ 1,650 at 1964 prices, a further reduction of £ 210 million. These sums are necessarily speculative and depend on the fate of "offset" agreements and other factors. (FWF)

Results Of New Hampshire Primary

President Johnson received a warning signal last week from the first 1968 primary election in New Hampshire in the surprisingly large 42 per cent of the vote which New Hampshire Democrats gave to his anti-Vietnam war challenger, Senator Eugene McCarthy. The President, who did not campaign, received a write-in vote of approximately 49 per cent—far less than his supporters had looked for.

At the same time former Vice-President Richard Nixon's campaign for the Republican nomination was given a rousing send-off with a big 79 per cent of the Republican primary votes.

Nixon, narrow loser to President Kennedy in 1960, now is set for another easy triumph in the April 2 Wisconsin primary where he is virtually unopposed.

Political analysts saw several lessons in the New Hampshire vote.

First, President Johnson was

put on notice that Senator McCarthy's campaign for the Democratic nomination has to be taken somewhat more seriously than formerly even though his chances of winning the nomination in August are virtually nil.

Second Senator Robert F. Kennedy now has an added chance to challenge Johnson.

Third New York Governor Nelson E. Rockefeller's move towards an open declaration of his candidacy for the Republican nomination was probably quickened by Nixon's New Hampshire triumph.

Rockefeller has to make up his mind by March 22 whether to leave his name on the ballot in the May primary in Oregon.

If he does the election there will be the first major test of strength for both him and Nixon. California Governor Ronald Reagan's name may also be before the Oregon voters.

The nation's first primary elec-

tion traditionally whets political appetites in a presidential year, and 1968 is no exception.

But knowledgeable politicians are as wary today as they have been in the past about drawing too many firm conclusions.

New Hampshire is, after all, a very small state and the number of voters involved is comparatively tiny. There are only a few negroes living there, so the polls did not reflect the problems of the big industrial cities.

Johnson himself made light of the primary in a speech before the veterans of foreign wars in Washington.

"The New Hampshire primaries are unique in politics," he said. "They are the only races where anybody can run and everybody can win."

But White House spokesman George Christian said the President's remarks did not indicate the White House viewed the primary as a "laughing matter."

Value And Hazards Of Map-Making

By Jill Boswell

One small but vital part of economic planning is the possession of accurate and up-to-date maps of both country and cities. They Directorate of Overseas Surveys, part of the British Overseas Development Ministry, helps Commonwealth countries to complete such maps, and gives training to their staffs at its headquarters near London. The Directorate's 1966-1967 annual report describes how a little over £ 1 million was spent for 46 countries.

Since the Directorate was established in 1946, it has mapped more than 1,654,000 square miles of territory—and a good part of his has been remapped since, to keep pace with political, social and economic developments. New roads, farming areas, towns and industrial areas have grown up, and these have to be shown on modern maps.

One department of the Directorate, the Land Resources Division, surveys and assesses land resources in developing countries. Its activities range from broad reconnaissance surveys to detailed feasibility studies: the aim is to report on the suitability of the land for agricultural projects of one kind or another. In countries where communications are poor or even non-existent, and where there may be great stretches of semi-desert or jungle, such reports are invaluable to development planners.

For example, in the Gambia the mapping programme was concentrated on the production of large-scale plans of selected

towns, to help in planning future urban development. At the same time, field investigations were carried out into the local potential for growing oil palms in this small African country.

The teams of surveyors sent out to map the wilder parts of remote countries often have a rough but exciting time.

In Ghana, the team was working partly in the Mole game reserve, where, the report observes coolly, "occasional encounters with buffalo and elephant added variety and interest to their work."

Less happy interruptions in Nigeria, after the start of the war, forced work in the Eastern Region (Biafra) to be suspended.

In Tanzania, the Directorate has been helping in a most important scheme in the Wami River Basin, in the east; in Botswana, too, its surveys are essential to the work of finding water and of exploiting the recently discovered mineral deposits. The heavy rainfall in Botswana early last year, which relieved the drought and saved many lives, nevertheless hampered the surveying operations by washing away roads and embankments and causing rivers and dams to overflow.

In the Solomon Islands Protectorate, weather conditions were even more difficult. In fact, when fierce trade winds in the Pacific put the local steamers out of action, the surveyors were reduced to using a couple of 16 ft. dinghies for the survey of Ontong Java Atoll. Towards the

end of 1966 several cyclones hit the islands, and one was devastated.

The party moved on, undeterred, to the nearby, Gilbert and Ellice Islands, where conditions proved similar. It is not surprising that the report comments, in another section, on the difficulties of recruiting staff; in some areas they must need the devotion to duty and the courage of the early missionaries.

Perhaps the most alarming adventure of the year was in the Malaysian territory of Sarawak. Access to the interior, the report says, was normally by river only, since the countryside "consists of primary swamp jungles along the coast and of broken hilly secondary jungles inland." The party used longboats "painted yellow for easy identification." They reckoned, however, without the alarmist imaginations of the local inhabitants.

"Unfortunately the surveyors were at one point mistaken for disguised headhunters and they had to withdraw temporarily, while the local information services launched an 'intensive programme by radio, paper and word of mouth to explain their activities to the population.'"

A major industry of many Caribbean countries is, of course, tourism, and the Directorate was not above providing "fully coloured tourist sheets" for the Cayman Islands and Grenada. For once local conditions were

(Continued on page 4)

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Half Yearly Af. 600
Quarterly Af. 300

FOREIGN

Yearly \$ 40
Half Yearly \$ 25

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BUSINESS REVIEW OF THE WEEK

By A Staff Writer

It is time we have a second look at the Kabul Bus Company. The company has been in existence for more than 20 years, but there is little hope that without the interference of the state this privately run enterprise will achieve the aims for which it has been set up.

It runs on a commercial basis, but totally neglects its duties which among other things includes providing transport facilities to the public.

The idea to send pilgrims in bus caravans to Mecca is a good idea and should be continued in the years to come, but perhaps it is far better if another special company were entrusted with this task.

This will relieve the public from the shortage of buses in the city and at the same time afford an opportunity for the bus company to perform its basic duties.

The Qaderie Bus Company of Kandahar which was formed two years ago seems to be forging ahead in the transport business. Their luxury buses, operating between Kabul and Kandahar are the best yet in this country, and the charges are very reasonable too. The one way Kabul-Kandahar ticket charge is Af. 120, suitable for all pockets.

Perhaps the task of transporting Hajis to Mecca and back were given to this company. A long-term contract with this firm

will ensure the management of the company considerable profit thus justifying greater investment in the purchase of more such luxury buses which are a must for this country.

In Kabul itself, the Bus Company must be guided to improve its management and work. Apparently there are some financial discrepancies too. Two years ago, in a debate between one of the readers of Anis and the Bus Company it was revealed by a third reader that in the annual balance sheet of the company there was an error of some millions of afghanis.

I was extremely interested in this particular case. It all began when one of the readers asked the Bus Company to publish the annual balance sheet for the past year.

The Kabul Bus Company, in order to show that it has made no profit published a balance sheet in Anis. One reader who happened to be the chief accountant in one of the government offices a few days later wrote that he calculated the figures in the balance sheet and found more than a million afghanis were not accounted for.

Unfortunately no action was taken by the government to find out the truth of the matter and inform the public about it.

The question now is how we can improve the affairs of the Bus Company. This question covers two aspects of the activities of the Kabul Bus Company.

One concerns the need to provide more buses, open longer routes in the city. The other requires that the Bus Company put its whole system of work and operation into order.

As the company is making large profits every year, it can well afford to buy a fleet of good buses. The company received a 200,000 pounds sterling credit from the United Kingdom two years ago. It is still not known what happened to this credit.

The company will do well to buy double decker buses from Lloyds of Britain or some other such bus manufacturers which

can carry more passengers and which will be more economical to run since they have diesel engines.

They should choose one colour for their buses. Several times proposals have been made to the Bus Company in this respect, without any effect. Why can't all the city buses have one colour, though they are made in different countries.

Bus drivers and conductors must also have uniforms. If possible some women conductors should also be employed on some routes in the city to break the monopoly of men in the field.

Renovation of the bus stops in the city has always been the duty of the Traffic Department, strangely enough. It should be the duty of the Bus Company to paint annually all the bus stops in the town.

The Interior Minister's efforts about one a half years ago to prevent private bus owners from using their vehicles in the town failed. Since a renewed attempt is likely to produce no results, it would be a good idea if these private buses were affiliated with the Bus Company.

There is also the need for few strong members of the government to join the board of directors of the company. This will ensure the government's interest and help protect the rights of the public.

At present most of the buses of the company are leased to drivers for Af. 1200 daily. They pack their leased buses with as many peoples as they want, and run as they not only to make Af. 1200 a day but also to make extra profit for themselves.

The Kabul Bus Company claims that the net income of Af. 1200 per day is not enough to meet its expenses, and they swear that it is the cheapest they can run these buses.

But some one on the street who had a talk with a taxi driver whose car carries four people and is faced with as many problems laughed but said nothing.

EXPORTS, IMPORTS

By Our Own Reporter

From February 21 to March 13, 1968 the Kabul Customs House handled about Af. 200,000,000 worth of goods and received Af. 56,000,000 in duties.

The imports included textiles, cigarettes, and provisions. The exports consisted of red and green rasins, carpets, hides, sheep casing, nuts, herbs and lapis-lazuli, which went to the Soviet Union, China, Czechoslovakia, Italy, Switzerland and Pakistan.

About Af. 9,305,974 worth of goods went through Kandahar Customs House last week and brought it more than Af. 3,000,000 in duties.

The goods in business included textiles motor cycles, tires and tubes, tea, rasins, herbs and tobacco.

During last week, the Herat Customs House handled more than Af. 8,000,000 export-import goods and fetched about Af. 4,000,000 in duties.

The export items such as carpets, herbs, nuts, wool, hides went to Italy, United States, the Soviet Union and Iran.

The import included textiles, edible oil and tea.

In Nangarhar Customs House, last week, the export-import transactions did not exceed more than Af. one million and brought the Customs Af. 430,000 in duties.

The Afghan Transit Company has exported 1,532,653 kg. goods via Sher Khan and Tashguzar ports to Hamburg and Italy.

An official source of the Company yesterday said that the exports included 1,008,177 kg. of cotton 278,297 kg. rasins, and sesame, 40,842 kg. of pomegranates 42,970 pelts and 1,378 square metres of carpets.

The company also handled 1,156,591 kg. of import goods such as machinery, spare parts, chemicals, plastic goods and electric appliances from the Soviet Union, W. Germany, Britain, France and Italy.

Meat Prices

Up Af. 4 A Lb

By A. Staff Writer

Meat is one of those commodities which very often sees rapid fluctuations in price. Only few days ago the price of one pound of lamb in Mirwals Maidan was Af. 16. However in the last four or five days it has shot up to Af. 20.

When you ask the butchers about the sudden rise in price, they say "mal nest" which means lambs are scarce these days.

Another thing which really surprised me was that the butchers in Mirwals Maidan sell lamb in bulk of one or two seers and those who need one or two pounds cannot get it.

These people have to turn to beef and there they also have to pay more because the price has been affected by the increase in the price of lamb.

Butchers are not slaughtering enough sheep in order to create an artificial scarcity.

We hope this situation does not last long and the butchers are not given an opportunity to blackmail the public.

The municipal authorities should check the number of sheeps the butchers buy and the number they slaughter.

BAGHLAN SUGAR PLANT UPS OUTPUT

BAGHLAN, March 19, (Bakhtar).—During this season the Baghlan Sugar Plant has produced 7,000 tons and 640 kilos of sugar.

A source of the plant said that there has been an increase of 617 tons and 355 kilos compared to last year.

An official of the Agriculture Department here said that 61,229 tons of sugar-beet were transferred to the plant this season.

Herat Company Buys 3 Million Kg. Cotton

HERAT, March 19, (Bakhtar).—The Herat Cotton Company has reported, the purchase of more than two million kg. of cotton from cotton growers at the cost of more Af. 15 million last year.

The Company has also bought more than one million kg. of cotton from cotton growers in Murghab district of Badghis province at the cost of more than Af. 7,000,000.



Guests enjoy the beautiful view of Zarnigar park from the balcony of the Jamil Hotel.

Bost dairy plant doing well

By Our Own Reporter

The production is satisfactory and this plant provides 300 litres of milk an hour, said Abdul Ghafour Jozjani, manager of the Bost Dairy Plant. The factory, which went into operation three years ago, is now doing well and will continue to be developed, he added.

The plant offers milk, cheese, butter and other dairy products everyday. It was founded three years ago in the agricultural province of Bost and now two skilled workers run the eight large machines which were purchased from the Federal Republic of Germany at a cost of \$ 14,000.

Today, Bost has skilled and productive man power resources working in many factories like Sangi Rokhman, Bost edible oil Company and the dairy plant. They are a great help to the economic growth of the province said Jozjani.

No foreign expert is working in the company at the present time, but one came for the beginning, who helped install the machinery.

The workers have been employed according to the labour law and they are paid well. They get Af. 700 a month. Women workers will be hired if they wish to work here, said Jozjani.

More workers will be employed as soon as we make enough money.

The factory has bottle washing, boiling, bottle filling, butter churning, moulding and cutting and ice cream machines and one cheese tank with a 600 litre capacity.

A washing machine can wash 500 half litre and 400 one litre bottles in an hour.

Hourly production of butter churning machine is 15 litres of butter, and ice cream machine produces one gallon.

Auto producers agree on standard safety

Major motor manufacturers in nine European countries and Japan have agreed to call for international standards of car safety based on United Nations recommendations. American manufacturers declined to sign the resolution last week on the ground that the United States already had laws governing car safety.

The appeal was issued under the auspices of the International Office of Automobile Manufacturers and said that road safety problems were basically the same in all countries and should have the same solutions.

The manufacturers said that they unanimously recognised the value of the recommendations of the working party on road safety of the UN Economic Commission in Europe and they urged that these recommendations should serve as the only international basis for safety regulations.

The recommendations are believed to include such safety devices as telescopic steering columns, splinter-proof glass, a standard height for bumpers and better interior padding. (REUTERS)

HOTEL BOOM GOES ON

By Our Own Reporter

The ever increasing flow of tourists and a growing tendency for investment among private sector has resulted in construction and opening of a good number of hotels in the city, particularly in the last few years.

Apart from the International Hotel, which is being built in Baghe Bala and which when completed will be the biggest and most modern hotel in the country, there are some small ones either under construction or almost ready to serve the guests. One of the hotels, recently opened in Mohammad Jan Khan Wat, is called Jamil Hotel. The six-story Jamil hotel is situated in the same building where Jawid hotel is.

The new hotel, which is not quiet completed, has 27 rooms, of which 10 are doubles and the rest are singles. All rooms have a private bath and rates range from Af. 30 to Af.250, said Haji Abdul Jamil, the owner and manager of the Hotel.

The new Jamil hotel is equipped with all necessary facilities. With the exception of fixtures and some electric appliances, all other equipment is local. Jamil added.

The rooms and corridors of the

BUSINESS CONSULTANTS ARE GETTING BUSIER

Management consultancy is a fast growing business. As international trade becomes more and more competitive, manufacturers have to become more and more efficient to survive. And where technical and managerial experience prove inadequate, special skills are necessary to decide how to raise production and lower costs.

This is where the management consultant comes in. And his influence is not only confined to private industry.

In Britain, for example, government departments have been calling in professional consultants to advise among other things, on the management of such basic services as railways, roads and ports, which carry the bulk of a nation's trade.

The post office has also called in consultants to advise on more efficient methods of handling postal services and the big commercial banks have not been slow to call for professional advice.

Consultants offer many different types of services, the most generalised consisting of advice on policy and planning.

This includes long-range forecasts of the future of particular industries, advice on mergers and take-overs,

Free Exchange Rates At D'Afghanistan Bank

KABUL, March 19:—The following are the exchange rates at the D'Afghanistan Bank expressed in Afghani pre unit of foreign currency:

Buying	Selling
Af. 75.75 (per U.S. dollar)	Af. 76.75
Af. 181.80 (Per pound sterling)	Af. 184.20
Af. 1893.75 (per hundred German mark)	Af. 1918.75
Af. 1763.67 (per hundred Swiss franc)	Af. 1786.97
Af. 1533.40 (per hundred French franc)	Af. 1553.65

U.S. Economy Campaign's Might Effect FRG

Preliminary surveys indicate that the Federal Republic of Germany may well be harder hit, and perhaps more seriously affected, than any other country by the U.S. Government's many-sided programme to protect the value of the dollar and to conquer American's balance-of international-payments problem.

From The Federal German Government, the central bank (Bundesbank) and private industry have

come clear expressions of sympathy with the aims of the economy campaign. It has been called "courageous and necessary." It is recognised as being intended for the long-range good not only of the Americans but also of everyone whose welfare depends on a sound international fiscal system.

West German experts are convinced that President Johnson's programme will have major consequences not only for the Federal Republic's economy, but also in the political and military spheres.

But why is there the prospect that West Germany with West Berlin will be more profoundly affected than other West European countries by the American savings measures?

The answer is that the U.S. actions probably will mean for West Germany but also, as now foreseen, extra fiscal and commercial burdens.

One of these burdens involves the price of international security specifically, in this case, the costs of maintaining the U.S. Seventh Army in Europe.

In the same statement from Johnson City, Texas, in which President Johnson described to the world his savings programme, he acknowledged that American's security and survival depend "on essential commitments abroad."

Regarding the American forces on European soil, he said they are "troops necessarily stationed there for the common defence of all."

Nevertheless, President Johnson says he is "convinced that much more can be done," beyond the "important agreements" already reached with "some of our NATO partners" (notably Germany) to reduce "the balance-of-payments cost of deploying American forces on the European Continent."

But there is honest doubt in West German circles as to whether Bonn can do much more than now to lessen the burden for America in this military sphere.

One thing is clear: Tough negotiations between Washington and Bonn over the old, yet ever-new, problem of troop-maintenance costs are to be expected in the coming weeks.

The current West German-American agreement on troop costs has until the 30th of June, 1968, to run. Here are highlights of what the Fe-

deral Republic of Germany is doing under this accord:

—The Bundesbank has bought \$ 500 million worth of U.S. Government securities to help offset troop-maintenance expenses.

—Bonn has set up a special account in the United States, into it have gone 2,000 million DM (\$500 million) to cover past commitments for purchase of arms and equipment in America, under which specific orders have yet to be placed. In addition, 1,000 million DM (\$250 million) have awarded.

The Americans would like the West German economy to continue to offset troop costs after June 30 of this year-by purchases of arms or of long-term U.S. Government bonds.

From Bonn's perspective, that will be hard to do. For the medium-term financial plan developed by the West German government to get its own public and private economy into better shape has no allotment for such transfers of currency after mid-1968.

Private sectors of the Federal German economy, too, are almost sure to feel the effect of the U.S. fiscal measures: on the capital market, in the tourist trade and as keener competition of U.S. goods on the Federal German domestic market and in "third countries."

As for capital, the Federal Republic of Germany is included among those countries "in continental Western Europe and other developed nations not heavily dependent on our capital" (in President Johnson's words) to which "new direct investment outflows... will be stopped in 1968."

In fact, West Germany may shoulder the major part of the burden involved as Western Europe experiences a decline in U.S. capital investment. In 1966 alone, U.S. firms invested \$614 million in West Germany.

True enough, voices have been heard in West Germany protesting a rush of American capital to a few of the most important industrial branches. There has been talk in some economic sectors of "selling cut" and "over-Americanisation."

On the other hand, the Federal German economists and businessmen know quite well that this U.S. investment has brought with it important advantages including tech-

(Continued on page 4)

BUSINESS & INDUSTRY



Abdul Rahman Pazhwak, (centre) Afghan ambassador to the United Nations, attended Southern Illinois University's annual Model United Nations, February 16-18. He is shown greeted here by SIU Vice President for Academic Affairs, Robert W. MacVicar, left, and Hedayat Aminarsala, of Afghanistan, secretary general of the Model UN and a graduate student in economics at SIU. The programme involved participation of SIU undergraduates and students from other schools as representatives of the various UN member countries.

U.S. Economy

(Continued from page 3)

tical know-how and dynamic methods of management.

Bonn experts estimate that as a dollar investment abroad, the W. German economy will loose an anticipated additional influx of capital to a total of 1,500 million DM (near \$400 million).

Like other European countries that are popular with American tourists, the Federal Republic will feel any measures that Washington takes to discourage U.S. vacationers from crossing the Atlantic.

President Johnson said: "I am asking the American people to defer for the next two years all non-essential travel outside the Western Hemisphere," and talked of "putting teeth into this request by legislation."

In 1967's first nine months, West German exports to the United States were 449 million DM (about \$110 million) more, and U.S. exports to West Germany 449 million DM (just under \$125 million) less than in the same period a year earlier. This was a special situation arising from the Federal German economic recession.

Despite all the pressures on and new problems for the West German economy sketched above, on balance the German Federal Government, and Federal German economists and businessmen welcome the American measures.

Informed Germans observe that if President Johnson can succeed in improving the U.S. balance-of-payments position by his hoped-for \$3,000 million, the international currency situation will also have been cured of a major headache.

(FRG sources)

Weather Forecast

Skies in the central and northern regions will be cloudy with rain in some areas. Yesterday the warmest area was Kandahar with a high of 27 C, 80 F. The coldest was North Salang with a low of -7 C, 19 F. Yesterday Mazare Sharif had 1 mm rain. Kunduz 6 mm. North Salang 2 mm. South Salang 3 mm and Muruk 4 mm.

The temperature in Kabul at 11 a.m. was 12 C, 35 F.

Yesterday's temperatures:	
Kabul	16 C 7 C
	34 F 44 F
Herat	19 C 4 C
	66 F 39 F
Ghazni	14 C 0 C
	57 F 32 F
Jalalabad	24 C 0 C
	77 F 32 F
Kunduz	12 C 5 C
	53 F 41 F

AT THE CINEMA

PARK CINEMA
At 2:30, 4:30, 7 and 9 p.m. American film
THE OUTRAGE
ARIANA CINEMA
At 2:30, 4:30, 7 and 9 p.m. American film
MAJOR DUNDEE

Home Briefs

KUNDUZ, March 19, (Bakhtar)—Eng. Mir Mohammad Akbar Reza, the minister of agriculture and irrigation, accompanied by Governor Dr. Mahmood Habibi inspected the progress on the Shah Rawan canal in the Archi woleswali. With the completion of the project 100,000 acres of land will be brought under irrigation.

KABUL, March 19, (Bakhtar)—The Education Ministry in order to regularise school days, has fixed the number of holidays for all schools in the country.

FARAH, March 19, (Bakhtar)—A protocol for the construction of a civil hospital was signed between the provincial government and the elders of Anardarah district. The elders have agreed to finance the construction of the hospital according to the plan provided by the Ministry of Public Health. Mohammad Jumrah, an elder of the district, donated three acres for hospital site.

KANDAHAR, March 19, (Bakhtar)—The foundation stone for the hydrology department of the soil and survey department here was laid by Dr. Abdul Rahim, governor of Kandahar.

Khe Sanh

(Continued from page 1)

The North Vietnamese are using trenches to launch probing ground attacks, seeking out weak spots in the defence of the camp, which lies in the remote northwest corner of South Vietnam.

Yesterday's attack was the biggest for several weeks.

Khe Sanh is said to be surrounded by 12,000 North Vietnamese. A heavy barrage of shells, rockets and mortar rounds hit the camp Sunday but no preparatory firing was reported before yesterday's attack.

U.S. officials believe that the North Vietnamese, infiltrating through the demilitarised zone as a massive confrontation builds up round Khe Sanh, may try to overrun the base and possibly touch off the biggest battle of the Vietnam war.

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Sihanouk Says He Is Ready To Become Host In Peace Talks

NEW YORK, March 19, (Reuters). Prince Norodom Sihanouk of Cambodia said yesterday in Dava magazine interview he would gladly play host for peace talks between the United States and the Viet Cong provided the South Vietnamese government was not represented.

The Cambodian head of state offered his capital of Phnom Penh as a site for the talks.

Prince Sihanouk was interviewed by Look magazine's Editor-in-Chief William Attwood, in this week's issue.

He said he was "ready" to invite both the U.S. and the Viet Cong to peace talks and that it would open the door to peace, if only slightly.

Prince Sihanouk added: "I would gladly be host to such a (peace) meeting here in Phnom Penh. Hanoi could send a representative too, if it wishes to participate."

"The Saigon government? No, because they don't recognise our frontiers, and they don't really favour peace."

The Cambodian leader said he thought there was a good chance to end the fighting if the U.S. ceased supporting the "crooked" Saigon regime and agreed to talk directly with the Viet Cong.

"Recognise the Viet Cong now, deal with them, and the world will applaud you. Asia will be grateful, believe me," Prince Sihanouk said.

SPLIT GOLD SYSTEM

(Continued from page 1)

isting system of reserve currencies— which France wants abolished in favour of gold.

To do the former could precipitate a major crisis within the Common Market in which France's partners side five to one against the French government on monetary policy, they noted.

ZURICH: Swiss banking circles said a free gold market was the obvious way to halt the drain of gold from official reserves but said it did not necessarily mean a large victory for speculators.

"The price will obviously rise initially on the free market, but after a time it could well settle to a lower level than many people suspect," one banker said.

"There is likely to be some initial profit taking by those out for a quick hill, but many will wait to see what happens," he added.

Swiss commercial banks are to set up an organisation to take charge of free dealings in gold, banking circles said.

MILAN: Banking circles were cautiously optimistic that the measures would bring a short-term solution to the financial crisis but stressed that more decisive measures would be needed to prevent the situation recurring, perhaps within a year.

BRUSSELS: financial observers gave cautious approval to the measures while Common Market circles welcomed the decision to maintain existing parties.

OTTAWA: Canadian Finance Minister Mitchell Sharp called the two-price system a constructive step but asked Canadian gold traders to keep the market closed yesterday.

The governor of the bank of Canada, Louis Rasminsky, said Canada's central bank will cooperate with the policies declared by the seven gold-pool members.

TOKYO: Japanese business leaders expressed strong support for the Washington measures while official Japanese sources gave them a guarded welcome.

U.S., Saigon Troop Operation Unsuccessful

SAIGON, March 19, (DPA)—The biggest U.S.-South Vietnam operation of the Vietnamese war, currently under way in the Saigon area, has so far been wasted on emptiness.

In operation "Will to Victory" over 40 thousand American and South Vietnamese troops have been combing the five peripheral provinces of the capital in an effort to recapture the initiative from the

12,000 Viet Cong and North Vietnamese troops said to be besieging the city.

Armoured and grenadier battalions are pushing into the jungle, squadrons of helicopters and fighter-bombers are searching the river swamps and the rice fields.

But while Saigon is playing up the operation for all its propaganda worth and speaking of "constant progress", the field commanders in the forward areas openly admit they cannot locate the Viet Cong and North Vietnamese troops.

They just trickle away in small groups," paratrooper Col. Daems, chief of the Third Brigade of the 25th U.S. infantry division said, shrugging his shoulders.

The division is situated in Cu Chi, a muddy brown hedgehog the helicopter flies.

Six weeks ago the 25th division chased the Viet Cong from the capital.

Cu Chi lies in the centre of old Viet Cong domain, between the frontier forests of Cambodia, the "iron triangle," the infamous "hobo wood", and the Filhol rubber plantation.

Through the middle of this runs the Saigon River with its many tributaries, by way of which the Viet Cong bring up their heavy rockets, mortars, explosives, rice and munition on sampans.

Cu Chi could be the focal point of the counter offensive, if all goes according to the plans of Gen. William Westmoreland commander in chief of U.S. forces in Vietnam.

The base occupants work like trojans, half naked, in the blistering heat and permanent mist of dust. Reconnaissance 'air-craft' transport planes and helicopters start and land on the steel net airstrip.

On the outer defence perimeter, behind the barbed wire entanglements, 40 mm. cannons fire into the flat access fields.

But this restlessness cannot conceal aimlessness.

Map-Making

(Continued from page 2)

attractive, and one is happy to learn that the surveyors "particularly appreciated the mild winter." But it was not long before more difficulties occurred, and in Dominica work in the mountainous forested area was hampered by heavy rain. At one point the party was cut off when a 600 ft. landslide obliterated several hairpin sections of the main road across the island.

Meanwhile, back at headquarters at Tolworth in Surrey, the photographs and data are collected and made into maps and reports which may help to improve the living standards of people all over the world.

(FWF)

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ALWOOTANA CENTRAL OFFICE AT THE CIVIL

AIR AUTHORITY BUILDING, ANSARY WAT,

KABUL.

Consultants

(Continued from page 3)

But the specialised nature of consultancy and the sub-divisions of the profession have meant that more and more are employed by independent consultancy firms.

There may be some two hundred or more of these in Britain alone, most of them small, concerns based on the skills and experience of a few men, who may specialise in one or two problems or one or two types of industry.

But there are also big firms. Four British concerns—Urwick, Orr and Partners; P.A. Management Consultants; P.E. Consulting Group and Associated Industrial Consultants (a member of the Inbucon Group)—each employ several hundred consultants and have split and subdivided their activities into several sectors.

WANTED
Kabul University Hospitals needs Dixon Shelves. Interested parties may contact Administration Division.